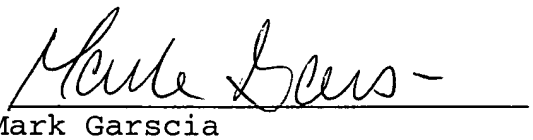
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A Notice of Allowance was mailed October 7, 2004. A Request for Continued Examination is submitted herewith. Claim 1 is amended and new claims 13-17 are added to more completely cover certain aspects of the invention. Claims 13-16 are similar in some respects to claims 1-4 of U.S. Patent No. 6,659,118, commonly owned by Applicant.

In view of the above, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 1-6 and 13-17. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with applicant's attorney might expedite the prosecution of the application, he is invited to call at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 
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